

## ABSTRACT

Various systems are provided which may be used in a beverage machine for dispensing one or more, (in particular a plurality of) beverage types . A beverage machine may thus comprise one  
5 or more systems selected from the group consisting of

i) a conveyance system for the dispensing of particulate material;

ii) a beverage selection system providing for the possibility of selecting from  
among a class of beverages; and

10 iii) a hot water dispensing system which may have a system for detecting the  
absence of water in the fluid conduit component thereof.